

4-072

GIPSIES MOVE INTO £2M EASY STREET



View of the new . . . bungalows handed to gipsy families thrown off Olympic site

EXCLUSIVE by NEIL SYSON

EIGHT gipsy families were celebrating last night after moving into £150,000 bungalows in a £2million gated community.

One grinned: "It's great the drives are already nicely tarmaced." But their arrival caused fury among people living on the surrounding council estate, who claim the travellers have been given ~~preferential treatment~~.

The gipsies were handed new three-bedroom homes in Hackney, East London, after being forced to abandon their caravans on the 2012 Olympics site a mile away. The move to the gated community, which has an on-site warden, was funded by the London Development Agency, which is clearing land earmarked for the games.

Each family was paid £8,500 to relocate and a further £4,800 for having to live in another gipsy camp for a year while their new homes were built.

Patio

As they moved in, they were spotted unloading TVs and fittings from smart vehicles including a Mercedes and 4x4s. Proud mothers flung open patio doors on to turfed gardens.

But one resident on the surrounding Millfields estate said: "It is completely over the top. I've lived here for 30 years and never missed a day's rent. But I can't even get my kitchen fixed."

Another Millfields tenant said: "When I found out what these homes will have - a fitted kitchen with fridges and ovens - I broke down in tears."

Mum-of-four Catherine Ryan, 46, who lives in a housing association terrace opposite, said: "Giving them such nice big houses in such a poor area is



Home sweet home . . . women move in

going to stir up a lot of resentment." A spokesman for the travellers said: "We were turfed off our old site and split up as a family group, so we deserved something in return."

The LDA said the gipsies had been on the Olympic site for 13 years and the new community was "the best way to deal with it". n.syson@the-sun.co.uk

Fury at des res arrivals



There's posh . . . community's gate

Only men are fat cats

BEING fat can help you to become a boss - but only if you are a man, a study found.

Researchers in the US discovered 61 per cent of male bosses were overweight against a national average of 41 per cent.

But only 22 per cent of females were heavy against an average of 29 per cent.

Mark Roehling, of Michigan State University, said: "The results suggest that being merely overweight harms only female executives and may actually benefit males."

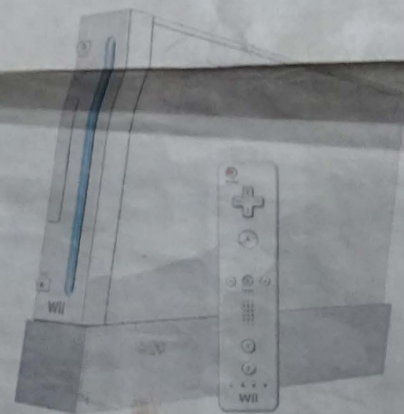
KIRSTY HUBBY CHARGE

Paul Grabham, 25, was remanded in custody by Swansea JPs yesterday charged with murdering his model wife Kirsty, 24.

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On their bill . . . caravan and kids at development Pictures: LONDON MEDIA